

# Indiana House of Representatives

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## News and Information

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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### **STILWELL ENCOURAGES LOCALS TO ATTEND CANNED DEER HUNT MEETING THURSDAY**

INDIANAPOLIS – State Rep. Russ Stilwell (D-Boonville) today encouraged area residents to take part in a public hearing at the Sugar Ridge Fish and Wildlife Area in Pike County on Thursday (June 23) to discuss a proposal to conduct canned deer hunting in Indiana.

The meeting is scheduled to run from 6 to 8 p.m. on Thursday in the headquarters and meeting room for the area, which is located near the intersection of State Roads 364 and 61 in Pike County near Winslow.

"This hearing is one of several scheduled by the Indiana Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to reach a final conclusion on allowing canned deer hunting throughout the state," Stilwell said.

Stilwell admitted that he has received a diversity of opinion on the issue, with a number of people concerned that the requirements of a canned hunt introducing out-of-state animals into Indiana herds could cause increased exposure to disease.

The difficulty in reaching a consensus has been demonstrated on numerous occasions, no more so than when a citizen's advisory group was unable to come to a conclusion on the need for the hunt, as well as the rules used to cover the event.

"This is one of those issues that generates as much attention in the community of sportsmen and women as any I've encountered in my years as a lawmaker, and I think this forum offers a perfect opportunity to offer opinions and possibly influence state policy," he continued.